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Attorney Docket No.: P-4891-US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	GAZIT, Dan, et al.	Examiner:	Nguyen, Quang
Serial No.:	10/067,980	Group Art Unit:	1636
Filed:	February 8, 2002		
Title:	METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR ENHANCING CARTILAGE REPAIR		

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Communication is filed in response to the Restriction Requirement dated January 28, 2004 issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified Application. A response to the January 28, 2004 Office Action is due February 28, 2004. Accordingly, this Communication is being timely filed.

Applicants elect **with traverse** to prosecute claims claims 23-29 and 42-47, of Group IV, drawn to a method of repairing or forming a cartilage in a subject in need, comprising the steps of: obtaining a cell form the subject, transfecting said cell with a recombinant vector comprising a nucleic acid encoding a factor of the T-box family, so as to obtain an engineered cell which expresses a factor of the T-box family, and administering said engineered cells to the subject, and a composition comprising an engineered cell which expresses a factor of the T-box family and a pharmaceutically aceptable carrier.

Applicants reserve all rights in the non-elected claims, 1-22, 30-42 and 48-63 to file divisional and/or continuation patent applications.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments as to this response, the undersigned may be contacted at the address and telephone number below.

Please charge any fees associated with this paper to deposit account No. 05-0649.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: February 26, 2004

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